Working Committee (TCWC) of the representatives of the three countries was constituted. The first Meeting of the TCWC was held in Yangon on 24-25th February 2005. The TCWC prepared a draft MoU to be signed by the three oil Ministers after the approval of their respective Governments. However, the approval of the MoU has been delayed on account of differences between India and Bangladesh over one preambular paragraph in the draft MoU. Issues relating to the draft MoU continue to be under consideration of the Governments of Bangladesh and India even as India explores with Myanmar other options of importing natural gas into India from Myanmar. An onshore pipeline through North-East Indian territory is one of the options for transportation of natural gas from Myanmar to India. No final decision has been taken as yet and the details of various options are being worked out.

Renovation of petrol retail outlets

2916. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil companies are renovating petrol and diesel retail outlets at company's cost;

(b) if so, the total amount spent in this regard in the last three years by oil companies; and

(c) the justification for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Oil Marketing Companies are undertaking modernization of their retail outlets to improve appearance and to provide appropriate facilities/convenience to the customers with a view to facing competition in the deregulated scenario. The total amount spent on modernization Company-wise for the last three years is as under:—

Rs. in Crore

Year	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL	IBP
2002-03	194.49	61.15	98.12	10.70
2003-04	180.45	206.99	162.80	14.12
2004-05	282.55	177.26	202.44	25.24